

Californians still face sky-high prices on everything from groceries and gas to housing. In the Assembly, Rudy Salas made it worse, voting for budgets that increased government spending by over 300 percent, boosting inflation. Now a lot of folks in the Central Valley are paying \$1,200 per month more than we were just three years ago.

Sky High Prices

Barron's HEADLINE: "Gasoline Prices in California Are Sky-High. State Officials Have a Plan for That." (Avi Salzman, [Barron's](#), 5/27/24)

San Diego Union Tribune Op-Ed HEADLINE: "Housing Is A Privilege In California With Sky-High Costs. This Needs To Change, Now." (Editorial, [San Diego Union Tribune](#), 5/20/24)

Orange County Register HEADLINE: "What Rent Slowdown? Tenants Find Little Relief From Sky-High Prices." (Jeff Collins, [Orange County Register](#), 3/12/24)

Increased Budgets

In 2013, Salas Voted In Favor Of AB 110, The Budget Act Of 2013. (AB 110, [Passed 54-25](#), 6/14/13, Salas Voted Aye)

In June 2013, Gov. Jerry Brown Signed The \$96.3-Billion Budget. "Flanked by fellow Democrats and other political allies, Gov. Jerry Brown approved California's new budget Thursday, changing very little of the \$96.3-billion spending plan before signing it into law. Brown said California's finances are 'in very solid shape' after years of deficits and touted increased spending on schools and healthcare for the poor. 'It is a big day for schoolkids. It's a big day for Californians who don't have healthcare,' Brown said. 'California is the leader. The rest of the country is looking to see how we did it.' The budget, which takes effect Monday, will change education funding, diverting some money from wealthier schools to districts with large numbers of poor students or English learners. Brown also signed bills expanding healthcare, part of President Obama's federal overhaul." (Chris Megerian, "Brown Wields Veto Pen Lightly," [Los Angeles Times](#), 6/28/13)

In January 2022, Salas Praised Gov. Newsom's Budget Proposal. "Assemblyman Rudy Salas, D-Bakersfield: 'I am pleased to see the historic levels of investment coming to the Central Valley that will build long-term water infrastructure, strengthen our local law enforcement and their response to theft, and grow our economy with more workforce development. These investments, in addition to our expansion of the state's COVID-19 response and \$20.9 billion in our rainy day fund will help California continue as a strong economic powerhouse.'" ("Kern County's State Reps Sound Off On Budget Plan," [The Bakersfield Californian](#), 1/10/22)

In June 2022, Salas Praised The \$300 Billion Budget Passed By The Legislature. "On the heels of the state Legislature's approval of a \$300 billion spending plan Monday, Kern's elected officials in the state Assembly and Senate issued the following statements: ... Assemblyman Rudy Salas, D-Bakersfield: 'The budget passed today invests in California by increasing per-student spending to among the highest in the nation, expanding tax credits for working families having a hard time paying for their gas and grocery bills, providing relief for our small businesses, improving our infrastructure and providing more money in SSI checks for our seniors. 'I am proud that this budget will produce the largest Rainy Day reserve fund in California's history. Our work will bring \$148 million into the district for energy research and jobs at CSU-Bakersfield and Bakersfield College.'" ("Kern's State Legislators Issue Reactions To Monday's Budget Vote," [The Bakersfield Californian](#), 6/13/22)

Salas Voted For AB 178, The Budget Act Of 2022. (AB 178, [Passed 61-8-11](#), 6/29/22, Salas Voted Aye)

The Final Budget Totaled \$308 Billion. "Gov. Gavin Newsom, D-California, issued the following news release on June 30, 2022: Governor Gavin Newsom today signed a \$308 billion state budget that provides direct tax refunds for 23 million Californians to help address rising costs, tackles the state's most pressing needs, builds our reserves, and invests in California's future." (Gov. Gavin Newsom, "Calif. Gov. Newsom Signs Budget Putting Money Back In Californians' Pockets And Investing In State's Future," Press Release, 7/1/22)

\$1,200 More Per Month

According To The United States Congress Joint Economic Committee Republicans, The Average Household In California Is Paying \$1,260 More Per Month To Purchase The Same Basket Of Goods And Services As In January 2021. “Using the June 2024 Consumer Price Index data release by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Joint Economic Committee (JEC) State Inflation Tracker estimates that the average household in California is paying \$1,260 more per month to purchase the same basket of goods and services as in January 2021.” (“California Inflation Update,” [United States Congress Joint Economic Committee Republicans](#), June 2024)

KUSI HEADLINE: “You Need Over \$13,000 More Just To Live In California Like You Did In 2021, Analysis Finds.” (Alix Martichoux, [KUSI](#), 11/30/23)